MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN ARLINGTON, D. C., JUNE 24, 1952.

The eighth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1952 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Tuesday, June 24, 1952. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Greenleaf,
Mr. Bosley,
Mr. Lyford,
Mr. Monroe,
Mr. Nolen,
Mr. Belluno,

also Mr. F. H. Brownell, Secretary and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the meeting held May 16, 1952, were approved.

2. PLAN FOR EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT OF ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: Mr. Greenleaf reported that he spent Monday, June 23rd, with Captain Carl F. Belonsky, Office of the Quartermaster General, War Department, who has been especially designated by the Quartermaster General, with the approval of the Secretary of War, to prepare plans for the improvement and enlargement of the Arlington National Cemetery, and that the drawing to which particular attention was given yesterday was the one which contemplates relating the area occupied by the Arlington Reservoir Park to the Arlington National Cemetery, and in prospect in connection with the Arlington Memorial Bridge.

Mr. Greenleaf submitted a photostat copy of the preliminary drawing made in the Office of the Quartermaster General, details of which are explained to the members of the Commission. The plan was Plan No. 3500-Rev. dated in

accordance with the recommendations of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on April 25, 1924, and submitted to the War Department in a detailed report with reference to the Arlington National Cemetery, on April 28, 1924.

Unlike other sketches heretofore submitted, this plan includes the proposed entrance to the Arlington National Cemetery about 1500 feet east of the present eastern boundary road of Arlington Cemetery. This entrance is to mark the western terminus of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, but as the treatment could not be stated in detail at this present time, Mr. Greenleaf advised that for the present the location of this terminus be indicated by dotted lines, and the detailing be left to the architects of the Memorial Bridge. The present "State Circle" entering the cemetery would be obliterated. There would be a parkway sweeping from the western terminus of the Memorial Bridge north to Rosslyn, and next to the Military Road, preferably to be called the Virginia Shore Parkway. The eastern limit of the proposed extension of Arlington Cemetery would be the railroad right of way on the west. The Virginia Shore Parkway in general parallels the railroad but sweeps toward the river as it nears the Military Road. At the crossing would be a circle. There would be the north end of the Mount Vernon Parkway. This Mount Vernon Parkway would pass in a southwesterly direction, under the railroad at a point 1,000 to 1,500 feet south of the Military Road crossing, thus curving around to the west would then sweep in a long curve up the grade into the present line of the road to Mount Vernon.

The spur is being used by the Pennsylvania Railroad simply to bring freight to Rosslyn. Mr. Greenleaf said the railroad can be readily

depressed in a tunnel under the new entrance plaza to Arlington and yet keep well above water level in the river.

Mr. Greenleaf stated that he stressed the point in talking with Captain Jabelonsky that while they were laying out a plan for Arlington and putting in a wall, to indicate it in the right place on the map and to show on the map that they are obliterating the road that now runs along the east side of Arlington--the Quartermaster General's office is heartily in agreement to do this.

The Quartermaster General's Office hesitates to take positive action with a view to moving the Experimental Farm of the Agricultural Department from its present location, but the Commission thought this could be taken care of by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of Agriculture, since the latter has become interested in the Anacostia development in northeast Washington.

The place selected for the main approach to the Arlington National Cemetery, Mr. Greenleaf said, is on a slight elevation and admirable for an entrance plaza. The grade of the bridge will fit in finely and the whole situation lends itself to a notable, beautiful and distinguished treatment.

Mr. Greenleaf said it would be necessary for the Arlington Memorial Bridge Commission to change their ground plan to conform to this recommendation of the War Department, and that he thought it would be well for Mr. Moore, at the proper time, to call Mr. Kendall's attention to the matter, before the bridge plans had been developed on the original lines.

As for the avenue extending northward to Rosslyn, Mr. Greenleaf said there should be no difficulty in connecting it with the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Its line passes what seem to be undeveloped factory sites, but

which it is understood will be included in the park system of the District of Columbia. Mr. Brownlow said he felt that the National Capital Park Commission should study the fitting of this Virginia State Park through Arlington and the Key Bridge into the system leading to Great Falls.

The Commission agreed to the contemplated plan of development, as explained by Mr. Brownlow, and it is understood that the park staff will submit the plan to the Commission when it is completed.

✓ 3. CONCRETE TRASH RECEPTACLE: Under date of May 2, 1934, Lieut. Col.C. O. Sherrill submitted the following letter with photographs, suggesting a concrete trash receptacle for use in the parks of the District of Columbia:

> "There are inclosed herewith several photographs of a concrete trash receptacle that is used in some of the better residential areas of Baltimore. It would be glad to have the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to the advisability of substituting this type of receptacle for the open timber type or the galvanized iron type of receptacle now used in certain places in the parks.
>
> "This receptacle is 30 inches high and approximately 24 inches in horizontal diameter. It occurs to me that it might be advisable to bury the receptacle, if accepted, so that only about 24 or 26 inches would appear above the surface of the ground, a bed of gravel being placed under it in order to secure good drainage. In this way it would be much less obtrusive looking than as indicated in the photographs."

Mr. Medary suggested that this is a matter which should be considered in connection with other necessary utilities on public streets, such as lamp posts, street signs, fire alarm boxes, police alarm boxes, fire plugs, post office boxes; that at present all of these utilities are designed by different departments or bureaus without any relation to each other and placed on the streets without any relation to each other. Mr. Medary said the street ought to be considered a unit in itself, with all these necessary utilities designed in harmony and placed on the streets in proper relation to each other. He

request that [illegible] a [illegible] place to start [illegible] layout.

The Commission agreed with Mr. Cuddy in this matter. The question was then considered as to whether or not this type of concrete receptacle is proper for use in the parks. Attention was called to the fact that this receptacle is not an incinerator and has to be emptied. Mr. Greenleaf stated that when in Hermosa Beach, California, about a year ago, he saw incinerators in use at the end of every cross street,-every morning the community is expected to burn up their trash. Mr. Greenleaf said one great difficulty with the incinerators is that produces a tremendous heat and he would question the advisability of using them in the parks of the District of Columbia.

The Commission felt that if this concrete receptacle is used in the parks it ought to be simply round in shape, [illegible] kind of grating on it. Without a grating trash such as waste paper could be put to blow around, and there might also be danger of someone falling into the receptacle.

The Commission recommended that Colonel Worrill construct one of these concrete receptacles in one of the parks for inspection at their next meeting, with the suggestion that all ornamentation be left off from it. (Exhibit A).

4. NATIONAL DEFENSE BUTTON: By letter of June 14, 1941, the Commission received a letter from Major General Robert C. Davis, The Adjutant General, War Department, transmitting a sketch of a National Defense Button, for citizens who have under one military or naval training.

Mr. Frazer advised that the eagle is not well drawn, that the design looks cheap, and that the work should be placed in the hands of a competent designer. The Commission disapproved the sketch. (Exhibit B).

5. DOMINION CAMPAIGN MEDAL: Mr. Moore stated that while in New York

about a week ago, he called at the studio of Mr. Weinman, at his request, to see the Dominican Campaign medals which a firm in Seattle, Washington, had made, without submitting the dies to Mr. Weinman, as required by the contract; that the models had been tampered with to such an extent that the medal was of very poor quality. Mr. Weinman wrote to the Navy Department disapproving the medals (Exhibit C). Mr. Moore said he also called the attention of the Navy Department to the matter. As a result the Navy Department will repudiate the contract. Mr. Weinman will furnish a new set of casts, with a view to having new medals made either by Tiffany's or by the United States Mint.

Mr. Fraser protested against making the award to the lowest bidder in such cases, but he was informed that this is necessary by Act of Congress, and the only recourse is to repudiate the contract where the work is not satisfactory, and then place the work in competent hands.

6. HOWARD UNIVERSITY, PLAN FOR ARMORY, GYMNASIUM AND ATHLETIC FIELD: Dr. J. Stanley Durkee, President of Howard University, appeared before the Commission and submitted the following letter with reference to drawings for the Armory, Gymnasium and Athletic Field for Howard University:

> "There is submitted herewith revised preliminary plans, estimates, letters of endorsement, etc., for the Gymnasium, Armory and Athletic Field project for Howard University. Upon proper legislation, resulting in permission to close streets, etc., Congress has made it possible for the actual construction work to be started, after the plans shall have been approved.
>
> The plans submitted herewith have been revised according to your recommendations of March 25rd, 1924.
>
> The cost of the project has been carefully gone into. In this matter the Architect has co-operated with Mr. E. H. Boyle, C. E. and president of The Boyle-Robertson Construction Company of Washington, D. C. This firm is thoroughly reliable and has much large work, Government and otherwise to its credit. Mr. Boyle, the president, acts continually as an estimator for building appropriations of the Department of Agriculture, The Navy Department and the Interior Department

The Doyle-Robertson estimate of $200,000.00 for the completion of the entire operation with the exception of the steel reinforcing rods is attached hereto. The University has $197,500.00 to spend on this project. This $200,000.00 estimate is for all the roof structure with the exception of wood roof decking.

It is our intention to use a "flame steel [illegible] or its equal", costing approximately $4.00 per foot. For this purpose and other necessary gymnasium equipment the sum $20,000.00 must be preserved.

We will reduce our cost by $20,000.00 in the following manner: first, thru competitive bidding; second, thru further economy in construction, that is, the employment of wood decking for all roof surfaces except that over the "Main Exercise Room"; and third, by divorcing from the general contract, the heating, plumbing, electrical installation, structural steel, stage equipment, thus getting the General Contractor's legitimate ten per cent profit on these items and turning this saving back into the building operation.

Hoping that our suggested program will meet with your approval, we are,

Very respectfully yours,

"Stanley Bourse".

The Architect advises of the Commission inspected the drawings. With certain changes, the drawings were approved. A report setting forth these changes, was submitted to President Bourse (Exhibit B).

7. CAPITOL FRIEZE: Mr. Mowry advised that under date of May 27, 1936, he and Mr. Mowry attended a meeting of the Joint Committee on the Library, at the request of Senator George A. Draper, Chairman, to confer with reference to the completion of the Capitol Frieze. Mr. Mowry did so and Mr. Mowry briefly recited the steps taken by the Commission of Fine Arts as shown in the report of 1915.

Mr. Mowry, said further that Senator Draper seemed particularly keen for the results of the discussion and a resolution was passed to inquire into the matter of cost and time required to achieve three alternatives: 1, completion of the present frieze; 2, reproduction of the present frieze in plaster; 3, giving the matter to a sculptor of standing to do in marble;-the facts obtained in reference to these several alternatives will go into a report in the fall.

8. RESERVATION AT TWENTIETH STREET AND MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE: Under date of June 16, 1924, Lieut. Col. C. C. Sherrill submitted a blueprint of a proposed landscape treatment of the triangle at 20th Street, Massachusetts Avenue and P Street, N. W., showing also a design of a proposed park lodge to be built on the reservation.

Mr. Greenleaf inspected the drawing and approved the landscape treatment proposed. As for the park lodge, the Commission felt that the sketch suggested a type of park lodge which would be inappropriate for this triangle. The triangle itself is very small and the park lodge as designed was regarded too large a structure for it. The Commission suggested simply a sheltered lodge back of a wall, covered with vines (Exhibit E).

9. MERIDIAN HILL PARK, SOUTH WALL: Under date of June 16, 1924, Mr. H. W. Peaslee, architect of Meridian Hill Park, addressed the following letter to Mr. Moore, submitting blueprints of a revised drawing of the south wall of the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park:

> "I am sending you herewith comparative studies for the completion of the outer walls of Meridian Hill Park. In these studies, I have tried to show all the alternatives discussed in my office and at the site on the day after the regular meeting of the Commission.
>
> Schemes A and B are reductions of one-half and one-third, respectively, from the height of the wall as originally designed; Schemes C and D, proposed reduction and the original scheme. I have considered the various schemes the more carefully in view of Mr. Greenleaf's comment that I must originally have felt the need of a higher wall and that now I am yielding to expediency. I do not feel that in this case there is any real concession. The fourteen foot wall is a holdover from the original scheme which required a backing of such height for the Buchanan and Polk statues occupying the axial positions. In comparing the two extremes of height, the one seems to me much too high and the other much too low. Between the two, in either A or B, seem to me to meet the difficulties.
>
> Scheme B combines [illegible] eliminating the really unnecessary projections to P Street and by previous suggestion of corner exits; also the elimination of the west side wall of 15th Street. Whether or not this scheme is adopted, I would like to

The wall proposed in Scheme C was regarded too low.

General Wagner, Mr. Glore and Mr. [illegible] visited Marion on July 11th to inspect the proposed location of the [illegible].

11. UNITED STATES FLAG STANDARDIZATION: In accordance with action taken at the meeting of the Commission on May 16th, flags made according to the proposed new proportion of 10 to 19 were tested in the afternoon on the flagpole at the Arlington Memorial Amphitheatre. The Navy Department submitted two flags each 10 feet wide and 19 feet in length, showing the alternate arrangement of the stars. Colonel Louis Marin Bean, President and Treasurer, Annin & Co., Manufacturers of Flags and Banners, of New York City, also submitted three small flags (about 2' x 4' in size), in the proportion of 1 to 21 and showing,-

(a) Every other star reversed,
(b) Every other row of stars reversed,
(c) A flag showing the union as now in use.

Colonel Bean said they had great difficulty in manufacturing the flag showing the stars alternated. The one (b) showing every other row of stars alternated represented, he said, an increased cost of 140% in the manufacture of the union, and that no real effort had been to ascertain the increased cost of flags (a), showing the stars of the union alternately reversed; that their workers at the factory found this task extremely difficult, and that the flag thus made represented an increased cost of fully 100%; also, in making the union in this manner, there is a waste of 35% in the making of each field.

Mr. Charles L. Campbell, of the John C. Dalton Co., of Cuba, N.Y., protested strongly against manufacturing the flag according to the proposed plan to alternate the stars.

Lieut. Rutledge, of the Navy Department, stated that their Bureau had

had one of the flags which they were submitting made at the Navy Yard in New York and the other at the Navy Yard in Philadelphia, and that they reported no material difference in the cost of manufacturing the union with the alternate arrangement of the stars, and reported a saving of $5.00 in the manufacture of the flag, resulting in a reduction in the length of the flag from the present "standard" of 1.00 to 1 to 10 to 21 (or 1 to 1.611).

Mr. Mowry was not satisfied with the colors used by the Navy Department and efforts will be made through the Bureau of Standards to obtain proper colors of cloth and dyes for the flag.

While commercial manufacturers of flags protested against making flags according to the proposed new proportion, investigations made that the Army and the Navy favored the new standard. It was decided therefore to take up the matter further with patriotic organizations, such as the D.A.R., Sons of the Revolution, and other similar organizations, to ascertain their views.

Both the Commission of Fine Arts and the Flag Standardization Committee of the Department of Commerce agreed that the proposed new proportion represented an improvement in the flag. The great item of expense seemed to be simply an initial one in changing new dies and rollers. It was pointed out because necessary also whenever a new State is admitted into the Union. An improved standard United States flag it was thought would justify the necessary change in the equipment of flag manufacturers.

The Commission adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

COPY

June 26, 1924.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting June [illegible], 1924, gave consideration to your letter of May 5th, with which you submitted photographs of a concrete trash receptacle that is being used in some of the better residential areas of Baltimore.

The Commission were not prepared to say whether or not it would be advisable to substitute this type of receptacle for the open iron type or the galvanized iron type of receptacle now used in certain places in the parks of Washington without an inspection of one. The Commission would be pleased to inspect such a concrete receptacle at their September meeting,--it is not thought the Commission will meet during July and August. The Commission felt that if the concrete receptacle is used there should be a wider top on it, as indicated on the attached sketch, and that the receptacle be either round or square, without any ornamentation on it.

In the opinion of the Commission studies should be made for all the incidental objects in parks and on streets--mail boxes, fire alarm boxes, police alarm boxes, lamps, street signs, hydrants, waste receptacles, and the like. They are permanent features and should be treated as such. Nearly all of these are designed by different departments or bureaus, without any relation to each other, and are placed on the streets at the will of the various bureaus, again without any relation to each other. The Commission feel that the street should be regarded as a unit in itself, with all of these necessary utilities designed in harmony and placed on the streets in proper relation to each other. It would seem that the National Capital would be a logical place to start such a movement. In this connection it may be stated that the District Government is encouraging the use of the fillet lamp post, approved by the Commission of Fine Arts a few years ago, in cities and municipalities throughout the United States.

The photographs are returned to you herewith.

Yours very truly,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill,

Officer in Charge of

Public Buildings and Grounds.

EXHIBIT A.

COPY

June 26, 1934.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting June 24, 1934, considered the sketch which you submitted with your letter of June 19th of a Military Button, for citizens who have undergone military or naval training.

The Commission regret that they cannot approve the sketch. It is recommended that the work be placed in the hands of some person who has achieved success as a designer. To secure the best results, a model should be made. The standard reached in several King and Navy World War insignia would seem to the Commission to warrant a design of equal excellence for a National Defense button.

The sketch, together with the correspondence, is herewith returned.

Yours very truly,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major General Robert C. Davis,

The Adjutant General,

War Department.

EXHIBIT B.

COPY

Adolph Alexander Weinman
441 West 21st Street, New York City

June 2, 1921.

Mr. T. W. Leigh,
Acting Chief, Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of May 27, would say that the three Dominican Campaign Medals sent me for my approval have been received today.

I regret to state that the medals are entirely unsatisfactory. Whatever liberties the concern which made the dies felt they were entitled to take with my models, they have certainly succeeded in butchering the Eagle so that I can hardly recognize it as my design, except in its general contour.

It is perfectly evident by comparison with my models, that they have worked over the dies, emphasizing every feather on the Eagle, the head of which is nothing more than a caricature of my model. What is required in a work of this kind, is an absolutely faithful reproduction of the artist's model, without any "touching up" by an incompetent artisan.

In order to protect the Department from getting so poor a result from models, to the making of which I have given infinite care and in order to safeguard my standing as a medallist, I find myself compelled to refuse approval of the models as sent me.

I hope the Department will place this work in more competent hands. If necessary, I shall be pleased to furnish another set of casts from my models. May I ask that you kindly inform me of the Department's action in this matter.

Yours very truly,

A. A. Weinman.

EXHIBIT C.

C O P Y

June 26, 1924.

Dear Dr. Durkee:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting June 24, 1924, inspected the revised plans which you submitted for the Gymnasium, Armory and Athletic Field project, for which Congress has appropriated $197,500. The statements in your letter of June 24th were noted that the cost of the project has been carefully gone into and that you have secured an "estimate of $200,000 for the completion of the entire operation with the exception of the steel grand stands". It is noted, however, that these and other necessary gymnasium equipment will be provided.

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the plans, with these recommendations:

The pool should be reduced to 45 feet in length, so as to make it a multiple of yards. At least 7 feet of "take-off" space should be provided at one end for diving and springing board events,--this additional space may be obtained by a restudy of the rooms on either side of the pool.

The pool should be lowered in elevation so as to have the foundations of the pool rest on the earth. This will also provide a better view of the pool from points of observation.

Observation space should be provided by piercing the north wall of the "main exercise room" with shutters which could be opened, thus making it possible to use the north end of the main exercise room as observation space for the pool.

As to the south (main) elevation, the Commission recommend that the inside vertical parapet lines be omitted. The "trim" on the building should be reduced to a minimum, replacing the cornices, excepting over the central motive of the south front, with either dentil facing or a brick soldier course. Galvanized iron as trim should not be used under any circumstances.

These matters were brought to the attention of Mr. Albert I. Cassell, your Architect.

The Commission approve the Architect's request to locate the new Gymnasium on a line with, to the east of and 40 feet from "Clark Hall", as shown in the drawing submitted. The grade between the west entrance to the Gymnasium and the players' entrance to the Athletic Field should be kept as nearly level as possible.

Sincerely, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. J. Stanley Durkee, President,
Howard University,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D.

COPY

July 1, 1924.

Dear Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting June 28, 1924, inspected the blueprint, submitted with your letter of June 16th, of a proposed plan for the improvement of the reservation between P Street and Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.

The Commission is returning the plan with the suggestion that the general design of the proposed park lodge is much like those that have been erected in other parts of the city. The triangle between P Street and Massachusetts Avenue is very small and the Blaine House has been developed into very high grade apartments, with some business on the lower level. This makes it desirable to minimize the space to be occupied by the public comfort station; at the same time the Commission recognizes the necessity of such a structure at that point. The question is as to whether it could not be possible to eliminate the tool house feature and simply make that Mr. Charles A. Platt suggested some time ago with reference to a park lodge--a fine covered wall with a very small comfort station behind it, properly divided for men and women.

The landscape treatment in general is approved as submitted.

Yours very truly,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Lieut. Col. C. O. Sherrill,
Officer in Charge of
Public Buildings and Grounds.

EXHIBIT E.

COPY

June 25, 1924.

Dear Mr. Pemslee:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on June 24, 1924, gave careful consideration to the plans which you submitted with your letter of June 10th, suggesting certain changes in the treatment of the lower garden of Meridian Hill Park, the plans having been prepared under the direction of the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds.

The Commission of Fine Arts would regret any reduction in the height of the wall along W Street from that proposed in the approved model of Meridian Hill Park, all of which was most carefully studied and has for the most part been completed. The Commission feel that a low wall along W Street will have a tendency to give a slump to the southern end of Meridian Hill Park and will thus tend to make that section of the park useless, whereas a high wall will give stability to the park and will be in keeping with the remainder of the park development.

The Commission recommend that the two entrances to the park proposed along W Street, in the plan, be eliminated, and that an entrance be placed at Fifteenth and W Streets. There should then be a promenade walk against the wall the entire length of W Street between Fifteenth and Sixteenth Streets. The shoulder or side walk butting into the street at the southeast corner of the park, indicated in your drawing, should be avoided.

If it is thought that some reduction in the height of the wall must be made, the Commission feel that a reduction of about four feet in the height of the wall along W Street might be made. In such event there should be a path on the Buchanan Memorial platform and above the promenade walk strong wood planting. The platform of the Buchanan Memorial should be upheld.

Yours very truly,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Horace W. Pemslee, Architect,

1504 M Street,

Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F.

Conference of Brigadier General Charles E. Sawyer, accompanied by his niece, Miss Isabelle Sawyer, with the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in Washington, D. C., June 24, 1924.

General Sawyer: We are here representing the Harding Memorial Association. I am the chairman of the Executive Committee of that Association. You no doubt know that we have certain objectives toward which we are working,--

First, we are hoping to erect a notable mausoleum in which to bury President Harding and Mrs. Harding. We also have as another objective the old home, which we style the "Harding Shrine". Third, and finally, to hope to have something left to establish a Chair of Diplomacy in some University of the United States. We have gone thus far. We have already on hand $800,000 in money. The special committee appointed by President Coolidge consists of Secretary Weeks, Mr. Charles M. Schwab, and Secretary Mellon. They have recently been in Marion with the idea of building this mausoleum and it is with the idea of building this mausoleum that I am here now. On November 15th this resolution was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Harding Memorial Association--

> That the Chairman of the Fine Arts Commission be asked to make suggestions as to securing satisfactory plans for the Harding Memorial.

We hardly knew in what form we should bring this matter before you. However, we felt that with your large experience we were certain that you could be helpful to us, by which we could get the best service of the architects and get a good designer. We have $500,000 for the structure. We have $100,000 for landscape and $200,000 as an Endowment Fund, and we have our site, which is in Marion, Ohio. The land has been donated to us by the Citizens Association at Marion.

Mr. Greenleaf: What is the area? How large is it?

General Sawyer: We have the choice of 45 acres, any portion of it that may be advisable for us to have and which we can maintain to the limit of 15 acres. The committee decided that 15 acres would be all that we would be justified in keeping up, but this 15 acres will come out of any of the 45 acres. Then we have in addition to that piece, across the street from us, a tract of land part of which is already owned by the Park Commissioners of the city, known as McKinley Park, and we have agreed to invest $10,000 and to add to the park 17.7 acres, which is going to be possible by the will of the deceased President, who gave $25,000 to the Park Commissioners of the city to improve any of the three parks in Marion. We have three parks in the city and they are authorized to spend this amount. They have decided to spend that money in McKinley Park. It will comprise about 32 to 40 acres and will be known as McKinley Park. Then there is the 45 acres donated to us, and then there is the cemetery adjoining.

I really believe this is going to be a very splendid location. We are situated on the main highway between Detroit and Washington, over which pass thousands of tourists every year. The cemetery where the body of the President lies has existed for many years, and we have very many visitors every day. We have had as high as 10,000 visitors come to the cemetery on a single Sunday.

The surroundings seem to be quite fitting indeed for the development of something very nice. Now we have in mind something in the way of a memorial and mausoleum, and in everything we do we would like to have considered the characteristics of the man himself. He was no man for show. He liked things substantial and he had the power of endurance. They are characteristics we would like to have brought out in the mausoleum.

The reason we are pressing this matter more or less is because at present the body of the President is lying under guard of the army in the only vault the Cemetery Association possesses. The Cemetery Association bought the 42 acres and gave us the privilege to use any part we may need, and that is to be selected by the landscape architect who is to be chosen for this work. Also we desire your advice in the selection of an architect. We seek your assistance in finding for us capable men and to help us to decide what is the best thing to do to begin the erection of the memorial.

Mr. Moore: What about the city of Marion, its manufacture?

General Sawyer: We are an industrial city and we live in the heart of a very great industrial center. We are a home loving people; 67% of the people own their own homes, not simply cells in which to sleep. We have a very nice, pleasant little city, and this cemetery is really a very beautiful spot.

Mr. Moore: How far is the Harding home from the cemetery?

General Sawyer: About three-fourths of a mile?

Mr. Moore: What is the character of the buildings between the cemetery and the home?

General Sawyer: Residences. There are no factories in that section.

Mr. Moore: Why I was asking this is because I suppose we may regard Marion to be a place of pilgrimage hereafter, and we should arrange for plans for the development of Marion.

General Sawyer: We felt this and we got this impression from what happened in Canton through the McKinley Memorial. There was a development in Canton that never would have happened otherwise. I really can see frank, however, in saying there is no disposition on the part of anyone in the city to do other than the very best for this memorable honor.

Mr. Moore: But of course we should take in the whole picture, and you want cooperation with the people, to make the whole surrounding of Marion what it should be.

General Sawyer: We have an absolute agreement with the Civic Association, with the Park Commission, and with the Cemetery Association. The Civic organization represents the citizens, the Park Commission represents the municipal government, and the Cemetery Association represents the property owners. We have a Cemetery Association there which is based and founded on a splendid organization plan of perpetuity, which is going to help us very materially in carrying on the work. Fortunately with the 42 acres it is possible for us to take 15 acres for the mausoleum alone and treat it separate and distinct. The mausoleum is not to provide for other members of the family--only Mrs. Harding would be placed alongside the President.

President Harding was so very fond of shrubs and flowers, natures own embellishments--I really believe in treatment of landscape as much as anything else.

Mr. Moore: Well it is a very interesting problem, and now you want advice as to how to proceed.

General Sawyer: Yes, sir. We thought to have a competition. You (meaning Mr. Medary) gave me some splendid advice.

Mr. Medary: Yes, I urged generally to avoid a competition and to select as he would in his own profession some one competent. I am connected with the Roosevelt Memorial Association, who also want a competition. I have urged them to select an architect from a limited number of well qualified men. You would not think of a competition in your own profession. It is just habit.

I do not think there is a more distinguished memorial than the Lincoln Memorial, and that was due to selecting one man competent and responsible. As soon as you have a number of men, no one is responsible. Each takes what interest in it he can, but it is never so great an interest as placing direct and complete responsibility on one man. Men generally think that to have six men in a competition you get six times as much, but it is not true--you get only one-sixth.

General Sawyer: I am fully agreed with your Commission, but the Committee feels it would be better to have a few competitors. Of course this is only tentative. I come to you for assistance and advice. Would it be well for us to make allowance for a drawing, $500 or whatever sum is thought necessary.

Mr. Greenleaf: Dr. Sawyer, this matter comes to me entirely new. I am entirely interested with what Mr. Medary has said. I know if you have a competition, so far as architects is concerned, the tendency is almost inevitable for those men to display drawings in order to affect the committee. I know you want competent people as designers--architect and landscape architect.

Mr. Medary: It is the thing you do in your own soul and mind. What you write on a piece of paper is simply the visible sign of what you think. The drawing is an indication of what the finished thing can be, but it can be very deceptive. Drawings are only the prescription and only for technical men to say from a drawing what is really a great and distinguished thing.

General Sawyer: I might say in this connection, Mr. Bolton recommends Brech Trowbridge. He thought Mr. Trowbridge would be a good man finally to help to decide the plan.

Mr. Moore: Five hundred dollars could not prepare the sketches in the office. I had a competition in Detroit some years ago that cost $1,000. It cost the architects $10,000. We have to provide very materially for a competition.

Mr. Delano: I would suggest the selection of one architect, one landscape architect and one sculptor to work together.

Mr. Medary: I think it is well to go into the mechanics of a competition a little more. Mr. Moore has touched upon a very important matter. Up to a few years ago when a competition was inaugurated the result was there were as many as 30 to 50 men that would go into it. Some of them could prepare the finest set of drawings, costing as much as $5,000. There was no profit to a firm to prepare them, and few firms could afford to have their men take time to prepare them. The difficulty then was to get capable men to make drawings. In the more limited competitions well known firms such as Carrere and Hastings or Cass Gilbert, after spending about $5,000 on drawings, could have one chance in twelve to win a competition. Thus when a memorial as this came up they would have to maintain another office entirely out of their own pockets, unless they were paid the amount of money they actually spent. The result has been that it is impossible for the best qualified men to enter the competitions, unless limited and paid sufficiently to reimburse costs.

It is physically impossible for architects to enter a competition. I saw

An item in a Baltimore newspaper not long ago stating that architects were to receive $80,000 commission in a competition. The winning architect was to get $40,000. There were nineteen other architects, each of whom spent $2,000, which indicated that the architects had spent half the amount that was to be gotten out of a competition before the competition was decided. The result of these competitions is you cannot get any one of the best qualified architects to take time to do a really great thing. In your own profession you feel the importance of taking the responsibility. The idea of a competition is not limited to the architectural profession. If you wanted an important legal decision you would not leave the matter with a number of lawyers in competition. What I had told General Sawyer was entirely in my capacity as a member of a committee of the American Institute of Architects.

General Sawyer: So far as I am concerned I am converted to the idea, but what I am here for today is to get the best advice and then take the information back and have them come to see you. Mr. Mellon has suggested Mr. Brewbridge. Mr. Schwab has suggested Henry Hornbostel. Presbrey-Leland, a granite firm in New York City, has also been recommended, and Tiffany's. I am frank to say it is difficult for us to get our body together. We consist of the Cabinet of the United States and fifteen other people, and for that reason it is difficult for us to get them together.

Would it be fair and proper, Mr. Moore, to leave the matter with you and have you convey your message to me, so as not to take up more of your time? There is one thing more, however,-we are anxious of course to get on. I have set aside all the time I have to give for the development of this memorial. I want to give it attention. I am one of the type of men that has to be in action. I would like to have you advise us as to the plan--recommend to us an architect, a landscape architect, and a sculptor.

One step further in the matter of the landscape, we have our Civic organization, the Park Commission, the Cemetery Association, and the Harding Memorial Association. We desire with your cooperation to develop the whole plan. The 42 acres are undeveloped, 15 acres of which will be used for the memorial. We have laid out a 340 foot boulevard leading to it. The remainder of the 42 acres will be kept. We are absolutely in control of the property.

Mr. Ayres: That seems to me all the more reason why you would not want a competition and would prefer one landscape man to study the project.

Mr. Moore: Now, General, I can assure you that the Commission of Fine Arts will cooperate with you in the development of this project. We shall send our recommendations to you.

EXHIBIT G.

MEMORIAL TO WARREN G. HARDING, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

On June 24, 1924, Brigadier General Charles E. Sawyer, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Harding Memorial Association, called upon the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in Washington, D. C., for advice with reference to the erection of a memorial to the late President Warren G. Harding. The members of the Commission of Fine Arts present were: Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman; Mr. James L. Greenleaf, Landscape Architect; Mr. James E. Fraser, sculptor; Mr. Louis Ayres, architect; Mr. H. Siddons Mowbray, painter; Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., architect; and Mr. Wm. Adams Delano, architect.

General Sawyer said the Harding Memorial Association has three objectives,-1st, to erect a notable mausoleum to the late President Harding; 2nd, to preserve the old home, the "Harding Shrine"; 3d, to establish a Chair of Diplomacy in some University of the United States. The Association has on hand $800,000. The special committee appointed by President Coolidge consists of Secretary Weeks, Secretary Mellon, and Mr. Charles M. Schwab. This committee was recently in Marion in the interests of this memorial. The amount set aside for the memorial is $500,000 and $100,000 for the landscape treatment. The Endowment Fund amounts to $250,000.

General Sawyer said that Marion is situated on the main highway between Detroit and Washington, over which pass thousands of tourists every year. The cemetery where the body of the President lies has existed for many years, and many visitors come to Marion every day. There have been as high as 10,000 visitors come to the cemetery on a single Sunday. It is proposed to maintain for the Harding Memorial 15 acres out of a choice of 42 acres of the cemetery area. A boulevard 340 feet wide will lead to the cemetery. It is about three-fourths of a mile from the Harding home to the cemetery. The Harding Memorial Association is pressing the matter of erecting the memorial, because at present the body of the President is lying under guard of the Army in the only vault the Cemetery Association possesses. A memorial is desired that will characterize the man they honor.

Mr. Moore thought it advisable to consider the whole city of Marion in planning for this memorial, since hereafter Marion will undoubtedly be a place of pilgrimage. Attention was called to the McKinley Memorial at Canton and the development which took place there.

General Sawyer said the Harding Memorial Association had thought of having a competition for this memorial. This feature has been given very careful consideration by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission unanimously recommend to the Harding Memorial Association the direct selection of an architect, in preference to a competition.

MEMORIAL TO FARMER O. MORTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

On June 24, 1936, Brigadier General Charles E. Hooper, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Harding Memorial Association, called upon the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting in Washington, D. C., for advice with reference to the erection of a memorial to the late President Farmer O. Morton. The members of the Commission of Fine Arts present were: Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman; Mr. James C. Dresselhuys, Honorary Architect; Dr. James E. Fraser, sculptor; Mr. Louis Ayres, architect; Mr. H. Siddons Mowbray, painter; Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., architect; and Mr. Wm. Adams Delano, architect.

General Sawyer said the Harding Memorial Association has three objectives--1st, to erect a notable memorial to the late President Harding; 2nd, to preserve the old home, the "Marion Battery"; 3d, to establish a Chair of Diplomacy in some University of the United States. The association has on hand $300,000. The special committee appointed by President Coolidge consists of Secretary Weeks, Secretary Mellon, and Mr. Charles E. Towns. This committee was recently in London in the interests of this memorial. The amount set aside for the memorial is $300,000 and $100,000 for the Landscape treatment. The Endowment Fund amounts to $500,000.

General Sawyer said they Marion is situated on the main highway between Detroit and Washington, over which pass thousands of tourists every year. The cemetery where the body of the President lies was selected for many years, and many visitors come to Marion every day. There have been as high as 10,000 visitors come to the cemetery on a single Sunday. It is proposed to maintain for the Harding Memorial 15 acres out of a choice of 41 acres of the cemetery area. A boulevard 240 feet wide will lead to the cemetery. It is about three-quarters of a mile from the Harding home to the cemetery. The Harding Memorial Association is planning the matter of erecting the memorial, because at present the body of the President is lying under guard of the Army in the only vault the Cemetery Association possesses. A memorial is desired that will characterize the man they honor.

Mr. Moore thought it advisable to consider the whole city of Marion in planning for this memorial, since hereafter Marion will undoubtedly be a place of pilgrimage. Attention was called to the Harding Memorial at Canton and the development which took place there.

General Sawyer said the Harding Memorial Association was thought of having a competition for this memorial. This feature has been given very careful consideration by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission unanimously recommend to the Harding Memorial Association the direct selection of an architect, in preference to a competition.

The reasons why the Commission of Fine Arts prefer the direct selection of an architect to a competition are many and various, relating both to the client on the one hand and the architect on the other. Among these reasons are the following:

Every design for a memorial requires long, concentrated study on the part of the designer. He must take into consideration the general purpose of the memorial, the landscape setting and the general environment. He should have clearly in mind the conditions which prevail at present and those that will probably prevail in the far distant future. He is presumed to be building for all time, certainly not merely for the present decade or even the present century. Most memorials that have been built in this country have failed because they embodied the temporary, transient fashions of the present era and are not based on those precedents which have come down from the remote past and which embody the ideas of permanence obtained through simplicity and harmony of proportion. The successful memorial is not one that embodies most, but the one which leaves out everything except the elemental.

In planninga memorial therefore it is desirable to entrust the work to an architect who has shown his ability by the character of the work that he has done and by his mental attitude toward such problems. An illustration is found in the selection of Henry Bacon to design the Lincoln Memorial. Mr. Bacon had done no such great work, for in all the world no living architect had achieved a work comparable with the Lincoln Memorial. But the Commission of Fine Arts felt that he possessed the qualities which would result in a work of the very first class. To the Lincoln Memorial he gave unremitting study for ten years, fitting his conception into a landscape scheme already designed and prepared for development. The result has been a harmonious combination of the work of the architect and the landscape architect, which

gives to the Lincoln Memorial a distinction beyond that of any memorial of modern times. It is the same kind of study that the Commission hopes to see embodied and realized in the Harding Memorial. The opportunity is at hand and what is now needed is an architect who will give his time and thought to realize his conception in connection with the landscape possibilities of the situation.

The ordinary competition is entered into by a number of architects who have neither the time nor the opportunity to make a study of the entire situation and who, therefore, present a picture or a series of pictures which are unrelated to the conditions that prevail and are calculated to please the eyes of a jury, who themselves have not studied the problem in detail. Again, the cost of a competition which would permit detailed study on the part of the competitors is prohibitive. It is also a waste of money. As a result the most competent architects decline to enter competitions where the payment to the competitors is not adequate to the amount of study involved and where the jury itself is apt to be impressed more by the picture---which will not, as a matter of fact, be realized in the finished work.

The problem, therefore, resolves itself into the selection of an architect having known capacity, who will give to the work the time and personal attention necessary to produce a work which will endure long after the present generations have passed away.